THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Government have not received any such recommendation.

(b) and (c) Do not arise. All films are required to be certified by the Central Board of Film Certification before they are shown to the public.

Auctioning of the Time by Doordarshan

128. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided for the outright auctioning of 10 percent of the total time available on five satellite channels; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ten percent of the time on the satellite channels of Doordarshan has been earmarked for auction of time slots in deference to the observations made in a judgement delivered by the Delhi High Court striking down the scheme for allotment of time slots on these channels on first-come-first-served basis. Actual auctioning would, however, depend upon the outcome of the appeal preferred by the Government in the Supreme Court against the said judgement.

TV Transmitters in Gujarat

129. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1529 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th December, 1993 and state:

(a) what action has been taken by the Union Government on the proposals of Gujarat Government to convert the low power TV transmitter at Bhuj into a high power TV transmitter and to change the location of high power TV transmitter at Dwarka to some other suitable site; and

(b) whether the low power TV transmitter at Cambay has been commissioned into regular service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) The Low Power TV Transmitter at Bhuj has been augmented to High Power Transmitter of 1 KW, as an interim set up and the same has since been commissioned into service with effect from 26.1.94. The transmitter on its full power of 10 KW is expected to be completed during the year 1995-96.

For shifting the existing High Power Transmitter at Dwarka, a suitable alternative location has been identified there.

(b) The Low Power TV Transmitter at Cambay (Khambat) is, at present, giving regular test transmission and is expected to be commissioned into service shortly.

Privatisation of Radio and Television

130. SHRI N.E. BALARAM:
SHRI N. GIRIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed privatisation of radio and television, as well as uplinking facilities for Indian broadcasters through Indian Satellites;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have appointed a high level group to study its implications; and

(d) whether they have made recommendations for the same and if so, the details thereof and what is Govenment's reaction thereto?